



PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
PATENT OPERATIONS

Art Unit: 1742 (Examiner: McNelis, Kathleen A)
Applicants: STEPHEN M. POTTER
PEDRO GUTEMBERG QUARIGUASI NETTO
Serial No: 10/789,694
Filed: February 27, 2004
Title: COMBINED PRE-TREATMENT PROCESS FOR ENABLING FEED MATERIAL
TO BE CHARGED IN DIRECT REDUCTION PROCESS

Charlotte, North Carolina
November 9, 2006

RCE
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE) PURSUANT TO 37 CFR 1.114,
PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE

Dear Sir:

In response to the final Office Action mailed August 9, 2006, and the Advisory Action mailed September 20, 2006, the Interview Summary of August 25, Applicants submit the following Request For Continued Examination, preliminary amendment and remarks. Accordingly, reconsideration and allowance of the present application are respectfully requested.

Amendment of the Claims begins on page 2.

Remarks begin on page 4.